

NEWSLETTER

Number 7

Naval Air Station Meridian

September 7, 2005

USPHS delivers aid and relief to NAS evacuees

By Captain Paul Seligman, USPHS

The Commissioned Corps of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS) has been mobilized to deploy in response to the enormous medical and public health needs facing our nation in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

69 officers have been deployed to Naval Air Station Meridian from their duty stations throughout the U.S. These officers include physicians, physician assistants, nurses, nurse practitioners, pharmacists, dentists, environmental health specialists, dietitians, medical records staff, social workers, mental health specialists, IT communication, engineers, safety officers and epidemiologists.

Our mission is to staff and run

the Federal Medical Contingency Station (FMCS) to accept low acuity transfers to free up beds in already overstretched and/or damaged acute care hospitals along the Gulf Coast. Hangar 1 has been converted in 24-hour, 362 bed facility to evaluate, monitor and treat persons brought here from the hurricane affected area hospitals. Officers are being housed in Building 150 and are anticipated to be on base for two weeks.

As one of the seven uniformed services, the USPHS, headed by the Surgeon General, Vice Admiral Richard Carmona, works closely with the military in joint-preparedness exercises and in deployments nationally and internationally. Following the Tsunami in December, USPHS officers worked side-by-side with the Navy and

Project Hope personnel on the Mercy.

The USPHS is an organization dedicated to public health during both ordinary and extraordinary times. At the World Trade Center, USPHS officers provided medical care and first aid to rescue and recovery workers, and performed critical environmental and occupational assessments for these firefighters and construction workers. In October 2001, officers responded to the anthrax cases and exposures in the post offices and in the Senate.

The Public Health Service is grateful for all of the hospitality of the Meridian NAS staff, and are looking forward to working with you on this important humanitarian and public health mission.

Military Relief Hotlines

Military One Support Number (All services) 1-800-342-9647

U.S. Marines

1-800-847-1597

U.S. Army

1-800-626-3317

National Guard

1-888-777-7731

U.S. Air Force/Keesler AFB

1-800-435-9941

U.S. Navy

1-877-414-5358

DFAS Customer Contact Center

1-888-332-7411

Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Service Center 1-877-272-7337

Notes of interest for Hurricane evacuees

Branch Medical Clinic Meridian

The clinic is closed on weekends and holidays. We do have a duty crew who can take your calls for emergencies at 601-679-2633.

School uniform donations requested

With school children in the local area now wearing uniforms to school, a need exists for uniform clothing for the children. Items requested are: khaki or navy blue pants; red, white and blue polo shirts. School uniform donations can be taken to the Fleet and Family Support Center.

Evacuees with friends in Navy Family Housing

All evacuees who are staying in Navy Family Housing with friends or family who have not registered with the co-located Housing and Evacuation Offices should go to the Housing Office and do so.

What about school for the children?

School registration for evacuated children is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, Sept 8 from 9am-12pm. Call FFSC at 601-679-2360

Can I get a job while I'm here?

Temporary employment opportunities may be available if you are interested in working while you are here. Please check with the Fleet and Family Service Center for job information.

Can I volunteer to help while I'm here

The American Red Cross needs helpers for various tasks in several locations. Please call 601-485-5151.

Donations needed by Red Cross and Others

Donations of food, drinks, diapers, formula, and personal hygiene items should go to Frank Cochran Center.

How do I register for WIC?

You can contact the WIC office at 601-693-2451. It is located at 5224 Valley Street behind the Mississippi Highway Patrol Office on Highway 19N in the College Park area. You also can contact the Greater Meridian Health Clinic at 601-693-0118. It is located at 2701 Davis St., which is near St. Patrick's Church.

Navy College

If you are unable to attend classes because of command obligations or a lack of internet access, contact Navy College. All on-base classes will be moved off base. Call 601-679-2671 or your local college for more info. MCC students begin night classes immediately. Contact Pam Peden 601-679-2450. EMCC classes will be held at Northeast Lauderdale High School at regular times. Call Loretta Boswell 601-679-3570.

Housing Residents

Please pile all yard debris at the curb for pickup. Do not place vinyl siding at curb. Notify Housing Maintenance for pickup. If you see a snake call Security at ext.2958. For maintenance emergencies call 601-938-7701. Regular calls dial 601-679-7001.

Military Family Locator Service

This service will be used to track and assist in locating affected families. Call 888-777-7731 or go to www.militaryfamilylocator.org. You will need the individual's last name last four digits of their SSN.

Veterinarian Services

The veterinarian visit scheduled for Sep 8 has been cancelled.

There is a possibility of a re-schedule in October.

Laundry Locations

Bldg. 218-C wing-All three floors

Bldg. 208-lobby areas-both floors

Bldg. 205-lobby areas-both floors

Sunday Church Services at NAS Community Chapel

Protestant Sunday School: 9 a.m.

Protestant Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.

Catholic Mass: 5 p.m.

NAS Community Chapel Weekday Activities

Wednesday Prayer Luncheon: 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study: 6:30 p.m.

LDS Family Evening: 6 p.m.

Various Hours of Operation for on-base facilities

NEX: M-F, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun, 12:30-5 p.m.

Gas Station: 7 a.m.-7 p.m. daily -- no after hours sales

Country Store: 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily

Commissary: Sept. 4, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.; Tues-Sat, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

NFCU: Sept. 3-5, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; M-F, 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Citizen's Natl Bank: M-Th, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Fri, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society

The office is up and running in Bldg. 266, next door to the Fleet and Family Support Center. Hours of operation are Mon, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.; Tue-Fri, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Services can be provided for active duty and retired Navy personnel and their families, and for all service personnel and their families. Services for reservists with less than 30 days active duty are authorized until Thursday. If you would like to make a donation to NMCRS to support the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts, go to www.nmcrs.org and click on the Hurricane Katrina link.

Pharmacies

Winn Dixie: Closest to the base, 12 miles south of base along Hwy 39 on SE corner of Hwy 39 and North Hills Street (first light when traveling south on Hwy 39) -- on left when heading south. Open M-F, 9 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sat, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Phone: 601-485-0818

Mr. Discount Pharmacy: Next the hospitals in downtown Meridian. Go south on Hwy 39 and as road forks, stay to the right and veer right as road forks again onto 14th St. Pharmacy is on left, across from Jeff Anderson Medical Center. Open every day from 8 a.m. until midnight. Phone: 601-693-1978

Hospitals

All three hospitals are with one to two block of each other in downtown Meridian -- travel south on Hwy 39 and as the highway moves back into the city, it will fork at one point and you will veer to the right fork. In approximately six blocks it will fork again, and you will veer off to the right and take a right onto 14th St. Anderson is on the right and Rush on the left. Riley is behind Rush on Constitution Ave. and 12th St. Phone: Anderson, 601-553-6111; Riley, 601-484-3357; Rush, 601-703-9260

TRICARE Authorization Number

1-800-444-5445. If you have an emergency and need to be seen at an ER, you will need to contact your PCM after you return home to have a consult placed for authorization of that visit. Only your PCM can place those consults for you.

Federal Disaster Aid available for those suffering losses in designated areas

Designated Areas

Alabama: Baldwin, Mobile and Washington Counties

Louisiana: Acadia, Ascension, Assumption, Calcasieu, Cameron, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Lafayette, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Palquemines, Pointe Coupee, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John, St. Mary, St. Martin, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Vermilion, Washington, West Baton Rouge, and West Feliciana Parishes

Mississippi: Amite, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Lamar, Marion, Pearl River, Perry, Pike, Stone, Walthall and Wilkinson Counties

Call FEMA to apply for assistance at 800-621-3362 or 800-462-7585 for the hearing impaired.

These numbers are for people in the designated federal disaster areas only.

Be prepared to give your Social Security number, describe your losses, provide

financial information, and give directions to the damaged property.

If you get a busy signal, try to call after 6 p.m. or on the weekend.

The information provided gets you in the system. An inspector will schedule an appointment and visit the property. You should be there. A housing assistance check will arrive in 7-10 days, if you are eligible. There may be an SBA application enclosed. You **MUST** fill out and return to be eligible for any further assistance.

The Daily Coastie News

Coastie News is provided by the coasties for the coasties

Donations: Food, clothing, toys and diapers are coming to the Family Support Center. Contact 801-679-2358/2360. Or contact Gail Meyers at 601-679-4090.

Coast Guard Housing Support: contact Gloria Cokel at 601-679-5551 or 604-483-3968. Also contact Cindy Vasquez at 601-679-9726.

Credit Union: The Navy Federal Credit Union is open from 0900-1400. For all pay, travel and evacuation questions call the "People Cell" at 314-539-3900 EXT. 2337,2338,2340.

Legal: Legal assistance is available for setting up wills and powers of attorney at the CBQ.

Belle Chase Academy: The Business Manager of BCA needs to contact MKCS Myers at 601-679-2530.

1. The Navy Relief Society has authority for evacuees that have lost household goods on a case by case basis. Contact Kelli Dickman at 601-679-2504

2. BellSouth 1-888-757-6500

3. Galaxy Cablevision 1-800-365-6988

4. Personnel in housing:

Your address is:

Your name

Your house number and street

Meridian, MS 39305

6. UDC phone number is 1-800-874-6841

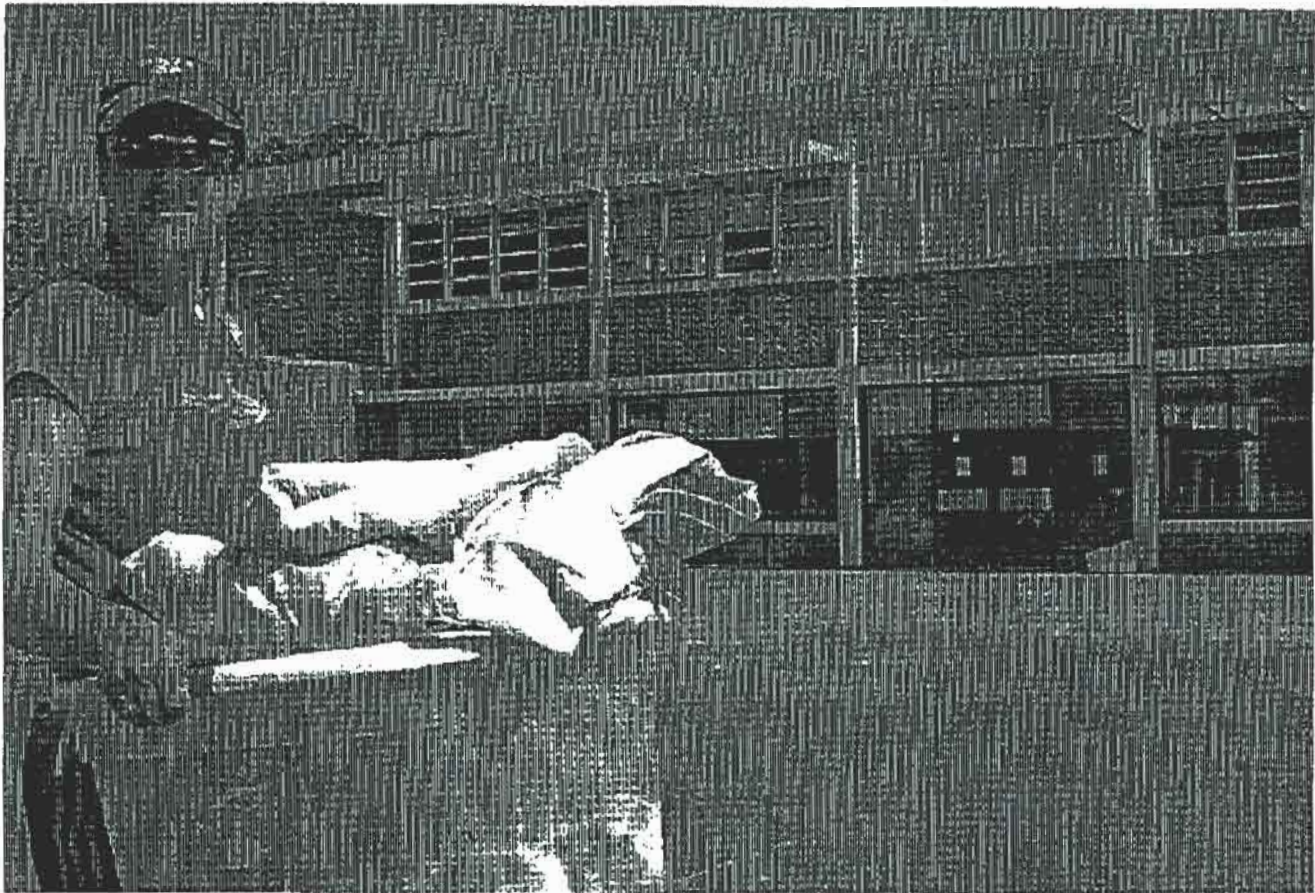
8. Dependents are reminded to check with medical to change your Primary Care Manager.

9. Coast Guard Ombudsman is Gail Myers at 809 Hull St. Contact 504-957-1642 or starting Friday at 601-679-9921. Any spouses who wish to volunteer to assist with donations, contact the Ombudsman

The Hurricane Katrina Help Line Telephone number is 1-757-889-6440 and will be manned 24/7 until further notice. Please refer all requests for evacuation orders, evacuation allowance payments, advance pay(military only), and EFT special payments(military only) to the PSD Afloat Hurricane Katrina Help Line

Navy 24-hour help line for family info & muster 1-877-414-5358

Family info or for help, call Red Cross 1-866-GET-INFO



EVACUATION DONATION CENTER OPENING SEPT 8

(BETWEEN THE NAVY EXCHANGE AND CITIZEN'S NATIONAL BANK)

**CENTER WILL BE OPEN SEPT 8-16
MON-SAT FROM 9 AM-1 PM**

ACCEPTING DONATIONS

CLOTHING
SHOES
SCHOOL UNIFORMS
SCHOOL SUPPLIES
BACKPACKS
SMALL APPLIANCES

LINENS
FURNITURE
MILITARY UNIFORMS
HOUSEWARES
LAMPS
TOYS

DIAPERS
NURSERY FURNI
TURE
TOILETRIES
NON-PERISHABLE
FOOD ITEMS

Sponsored by NAS Meridian spouses' clubs

LAUDERDALE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Student Dress Code Policy

Northeast Elementary

2005-2006 School Year

TOPS/SHIRTS:

Solid color tops only (three school colors—red, white, gray)

Style:

Short or long sleeve polo

Short or long sleeve oxford/blouse

Sweaters

Note:

Jumpers for Elementary Students

Shirts must be worn tucked into the pants on all boys (Exceptions may be made based on the principal's discretion)

Sweaters must be worn over an approved top

Only pre-approved school logos will be allowed on tops

Prohibited:

No brand logos

No denim

No sleeveless tops

No label, insignia, print, writing or monogramming may appear on tops (other than the school insignia/logo)

BOTTOMS:

Solid colors – Khaki or Black

(Plaid acceptable in school colors for jumpers or skirts)

Style:

"Docker" style pants/shorts—pleated or flat front

Skirts/Skorts—pleated or flat front

Capris—pleated or flat front

Note:

Pants must be worn with a belt through the belt loops and properly fastened

Belts must be worn with skirts/skorts/pants if belt loops are present

All bottoms must be hemmed

Pants must fit properly and cannot be more than one size too big

Skirts, skorts, and shorts must not exceed 4 inches above the knee

Prohibited:

No cargo pants (exception K-4)

No flared legs

No spandex, polyester or other tight fitting bottoms

No warm up suits

No over length styles
No sagging
No holes, cuts, or tears are permitted

FOOTWEAR:

Note:

All shoes must be properly tied or fastened

Prohibited:

No flip-flops

JACKETS:

Note:

Jackets can be no longer than mid-thigh

Lightweight jackets/sweaters should be in school colors or black or khaki

School letter jackets are allowed

Heavyweight coats are allowed in any color

Prohibited:

Dusters/long coats

EXCEPTIONS TO THE DRESS CODE:

Students may wear an approved top that associates that student with an athletic team or activity group on a given day that corresponds with an event associated with a team sport or activity. Students may wear approved apparel other than the approved dress code on days associated with special school functions or activities designated by the administration.

ACCESSORIES:

All guidelines concerning accessories are covered in the student handbook.

IN ALL INSTANCES, THE STYLE AND MANNER IN WHICH CLOTHING IS WORN AND THE WAY IN WHICH CLOTHING FITS, WILL DETERMINE THE APPROPRIATENESS OR INAPPROPRIATENESS OF THE DRESS CODE.

New Students:

Upon enrollment during the school year, a student will have five (5) school days in which to comply with the dress code. Administration may grant additional time due to extenuating circumstances.

Note:

Vendors will show samples at Northeast Elementary—dates to be announced. Items may be purchased at that time or may be purchased from Sears, J. C. Penny, McRae's, Dilliard's, Walmart, Dollar Store, etc.

FFSC**Building 405****(601) 679-2360 / x2358 / x2183 / x2184 / x2185****OPEN MONDAY – FRIDAY, 0700—1630****WEEKEND OPENING & HOURS TBA****NEED PEOPLE TO WORK OR VOLUNTEER?**

The FFSC is still coordinating civilian volunteers and has a large database of civilians looking for temporary employment at NAS Meridian (through whatever agencies & departments need them). Call Stacey Jemison at 601-679-2360 if you need volunteers or employees for post-hurricane work.

If you would like to volunteer, call Ms Jemison to be added to the volunteer database.

MAKING DONATIONS FOR HURRICANE VICTIMS (UPDATED INFO)

The FFSC is no longer taking food or clothing donations. You may drop off clothing at the old McDonald's building (near NEX) for the Navy Wives' Club Thrift Store. The Red Cross in Meridian is also no longer taking used clothing donations.

To make **financial** donations, contact Navy Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) at 601-679-2504 – these donations go exclusively to military members and their families. To make financial donations for civilian refugees of Hurricane Katrina, please call the Red Cross at 601-485-5151.

FFSC will take donations of magazines, books, games, and toys for the M.A.S.H. unit setting up at the flight line.

REGISTERING CHILDREN FOR SCHOOL

The FFSC will have a representative for the **Lauderdale County Schools** on base this Thursday, 8 September, 0900—1200.

If you need to register your children for school in Lauderdale County, MS, please meet with this school representative at the FFSC (Building 405 – across the street from the Administration Building), or call 601-679-2360 for more information about getting your kids in school.

Items to bring with you for school registration (IF YOU HAVE THEM) are: children's immunization records and birth certificates, and parents' ID (driver's license, etc).

MERIDIAN NAS BUS SCHEDULE

PLEASE HAVE CASH FARES READY WHEN BOARDING. MUST HAVE CORRECT CHANGE!

UNION STATION	DEPART NAS MATSS-1	NTTC	MCCAIN LANES	BONITA LAKES MALL	REQUEST ONLY WALMART APPLEBEES OTHER
FRJ					
4:35 PM	5:00 PM 6:00 PM	6:05 PM 6:05 PM	5:10 PM 6:10 PM	5:30 PM 6:30 PM	6:40 PM
7:00 PM	8:10 PM 10:00 PM	8:20 PM 10:05 PM	8:30 PM 10:10 PM	9:00 PM PASSENGER DROP OFF IF ANY	10:30 OFF DUTY
SAT					
8:30 AM	10:00 AM	10:05 AM	10:10 AM	10:50 AM	11:00 AM
11:10 AM	12:00 PM	12:05 PM	12:10 PM	12:50 PM	1:00 PM
1:10 PM	2:00 PM	2:05 PM	2:10 PM	2:50 PM	3:00 PM
3:10 PM	4:00 PM 5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM	4:05 PM 5:05 PM 6:05 PM 7:05 PM 8:20 PM	4:10 PM 5:10 PM 6:10 PM 7:10 PM 8:30 PM	4:30 PM 5:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 PM 9:00 PM PASSENGER DROP OFF IF ANY	10:30 OFF DUTY
7:40 PM	8:10 PM 10:00 PM	8:20 PM 10:05 PM	8:30 PM 10:10 PM		
SUN					
12:30 PM	1:00 PM 2:00 PM 3:00 PM	1:05 PM 2:05 PM 3:05 PM	1:10 PM 2:10 PM 3:10 PM	1:30 PM 2:30 PM 3:30 PM	
3:40 PM	5:00 PM	5:05 PM	5:10 PM	6:00 PM	6:05 PM
6:10 PM	6:40 PM	6:45 PM	6:50 PM	PASSENGER DROP OFF IF ANY	7:20 PM PM OFF DUTY